



Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS**

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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Editor: Linda Niebauer <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/farleyhealthpolicycenter>



[Solving the mental health access problem](#) is this week's newsletter from Ben Miller who calls out two new reports that shine a light on how big the problems are with solutions to fix them, and the role policymakers must play in redesigning the system.

[Training a new generation of 'climate doctors'](#) is a CNN story by Caleb Helleman who writes about how climate harms is a growing part of U.S. medical education. He reports on how universities and public health graduate programs offer majors and concentrations, but how the Colorado diploma program goes a step further with the aim of turning working medical professionals into leading experts on climate and health.

[Colorado Health Foundation Supports Rural-Colorado's Queer Youth with Donation to ColoradoSPH](#) is a post on the *Colorado School of Public Health* website about a generous donation to bolster the Center's efforts to engage and support queer youth throughout rural Colorado.

[New ECHO Series: Newcomer Health](#) is a new series to begin January 30, 2024. This program is designed to increase primary care providers' knowledge of health issues in newcomers, including refugee, immigrant and migrant populations.

[Pediatric Suicide Prevention: A Practical Care Pathway for Primary Care](#) is a six-week ECHO series to be held January 23-February 27, 2024. The sessions are designed to support primary care providers in the outpatient setting by offering a practical suicide prevention care pathway based on the Zero Suicide framework.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[How physicians are preparing for climate change and extreme heat's impact on human health](#) is a PBS story by William Brangham who reports that (in collaboration with the Global Health Reporting Center with support from the Pulitzer Center) if temperatures continue to climb, the impact on health could be profound and some doctors say the medical profession is not prepared.

[A Safe2Tell report after suicidal social media post saved a Colorado student's life](#) is a story on *The Colorado Sun* by Jennifer Brown about how a student's quick action in making a report to Colorado's anonymous Safe2Tell program, after seeing a social media post, stopped a suicide attempt in a child's home.

[In rural southwestern Colorado, maternal health care access is at risk](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Sarah Tory and The Colorado Trust about how birthing services are under threat as the region struggles with the same crushing economic realities facing rural hospitals across the United States.

[Colorado's long COVID clinics can't meet demand, so health leaders look to expand treatment](#) is a story in *The Denver Post* by Meg Wingerter about how Colorado doesn't have enough capacity to treat everyone suffering with long COVID at the three specialized clinics in the state, so public health leaders are trying to figure out ways for more people to get the care they need closer to home. Dr. Kyle Leggott, primary care liaison for Project ECHO, CU Family Medicine faculty member, and Farley Center scholar, said ECHO put together seven online courses to cover the basics of long COVID care, free to providers interested in them.



POLICY EFFORTS

[Celebrating Nonprofits Committed to Equity and Justice](#) is a post by *The Colorado Health Foundation* about the three Colorado nonprofits that are recipients of this year's \$10,000 holiday donation in acknowledgment of their hard work to advance health equity and racial justice in their communities.

[Medicine's Lessons for AI Regulation](#) is a perspective piece posted in *The*

New England Journal of Medicine by Laura Stark that suggests that the past holds lessons for the future of AI. The history of human subjects regulation shows that a core decision to be made relates to the role of professions in guiding or replacing government regulations. Discussions must focus on who, specifically, should have authority to establish and enforce rules for AI, with public values in mind. Attention to data ethics will be key to robust AI regulation, and planning for rule revision is essential.

[Colorado lawmakers have pledged to “fully fund” schools. Education spending will continue to trail other states.](#) is a story on *The Colorado Sun* site by Brian Eason and Erica Breunlin about how the legislature and Gov. Jared Polis have proposed funding schools to the level required by the state constitution for the first time in 14 years. Educators say, “we are short selling K-12 education immensely in the state.”



[Capturing Primary Care Delivery: A Versatile Approach to Identifying Primary Care in Claims Data](#) is an issue brief posted on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* website by Jonathan Staloff and colleagues from the Value and Systems Science Lab at the University of Washington, that proposes a methodology to measure primary care services that they demonstrate using Washington State Medicaid claims data. The authors’ approach can identify trends in primary care utilization and spending and offer insights into specific care patterns that can inform targeted policies and programs.

[Preliminary Data on “Unwinding” Continuous Medicaid Coverage](#) is an opinion piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Adrianna McIntyre and colleagues who state that continuous Medicaid coverage will remain a critical policy focus for the next year and that there is still time for policymakers, employers, health care organizations, and clinicians to support patients and minimize the risk of coverage loss for tens of millions of Americans.

[Facing low pay, shortages and violence, nearly 60% of surveyed Colorado teachers consider leaving](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Erica Breunlin about a report released by the Colorado Education Association that raises concerns around educators’ wellbeing, with most respondents in a union survey saying they are thinking about leaving the classroom. The report urges state lawmakers to invest more in public education while continuing to sound the alarm on teachers’ escalating levels of stress and growing list of demands while managing the mental health issues among students.

[Five Questions for a Post-Pandemic World](#) is an opinion piece on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* website by Sandro Galea and George J. Annas who applaud the work of the COVID Crisis Group in their commentary, [Lessons from the COVID War: An Investigative Report](#), and then offer five questions. The authors suggest that engaging the wider public about these questions may increase the likelihood of addressing them, and minimize the damage of future pandemics.



[Kaiser Permanente's Strategic Investment in MLP to Propel Civil Legal Aid Upstream](#) is an announcement in the *National Center for Medical Legal Partnership* newsletter about the partnership with the center and Kaiser to form a multistate MLP to improve the health of patients by addressing their housing-related legal needs.

[CrescentCare: An MLP for the Community](#) is a post on the *National Center for Medical Legal Partnership* website by Amalis Córdova Mustafá about the first MLP established in Louisiana (2012 after Katrina) that provides free legal aid to people living with HIV in the state to empower them to be advocates for themselves and to reach out for the legal assistance they need.

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Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center | 12631 E 17th Avenue, Box F496, Aurora, CO 80045

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